

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) An optical ferrule comprising a ferrule body; wherein a concave portion in which a gate for resin molding is disposed is formed in said ferrule body, and a depth of said concave portion is deeper than a height of a flash which is formed in said concave portion as a result of said resin molding.

2. (Previously Presented) The optical ferrule according to claim 1, wherein an optical fiber insertion opening portion for inserting an optical fiber, an optical fiber insertion hole for inserting an end of said optical fiber which is inserted in said optical fiber insertion opening portion, and a guide pin hole for inserting a guide pin for guiding said ferrule body to a proper position, are formed in said ferrule body so as to position said optical fiber so as to position said optical fiber so as to position said optical fiber insertion hole in a tip end portion thereof.

3. (Previously Presented) The optical ferrule according to claim 2, wherein a flange portion protruding from an external periphery surface of said ferrule body to an outside is provided in a rear end portion of said ferrule body opposite to said tip end portion, and said concave portion is formed in an external surface of said flange portion.

4. (Previously Presented) The optical ferrule according to claim 3, wherein said flange portion has a rectangular shape when viewed from said rear end portion, and said concave portion is formed in at least one of right and left side surfaces of the external periphery of said flange portion.

5. (Previously Presented) The optical ferrule according to claim 4, wherein said concave portion is formed so as to extend from said side surface to a rear end corner of said rear end portion.

6. (Original) The optical ferrule according to claim 5, wherein a linear dimension (s) of said flange portion obtained by excluding said concave portion is set to 0.3 mm or more.

7. (Previously Presented) The optical ferrule according claim 4, wherein said concave portion is formed between both corner portions of said side surface which extend along an insertion direction of said optical fiber.

8. (Previously Presented) The optical ferrule according to claim 4, wherein said concave portion is formed in a groove shape extending over a whole length of said flange portion along an insertion direction of said optical fiber.

9. (Previously Presented) The optical ferrule according to claim 3, wherein said flange portion has a rectangular shape when viewed from said rear end portion, and said concave portion is formed in at least one of upper and lower side surfaces of the external periphery surface of said flange portion.

10. (Previously Presented) The optical ferrule according to claim 9, wherein said concave portion is formed in a groove shape extending over a whole length of said flange portion along an insertion direction of said optical fiber.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) An optical ferrule comprising a ferrule body, wherein a concave portion is formed for confirming confirmation factors such as a material of said ferrule body or sorts of optical fiber held in said ferrule body; and said concave portion is formed in a flange portion of said ferrule body, and a gate for resin molding is disposed in said concave portion.

13. (Previously Presented) The optical ferrule according to claim 1, wherein said concave portion is formed at a portion other than a flange portion of said ferrule body.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Withdrawn) A method of molding an optical ferrule wherein used is a metal mold (20) in which a concave portion (17c), where a gate (G) in resin molding is disposed, is formed in a ferrule body (11), and resin is injected from said gate.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of molding an optical ferrule according to claim 15, wherein in said ferrule body (11) molded is said optical ferrule in which an optical fiber insertion opening portion (2) for inserting an optical fiber therein, an optical fiber insertion hole (3) opened in a connector connecting end face (6), the optical fiber insertion hole (3) inserting said optical fiber therein and positioning said optical fiber, and a guide pin hole (4) for inserting a guide pin (22) therein, the guide pin (22) positioning said ferrule bodies (11).

17. (Withdrawn) The method of molding an optical ferrule according to claim 16, wherein by said metal mold, a flange portion (17) disposed at a rear end portion opposite to said connector connecting end face, the flange portion (17) being formed so as to protrude from an external periphery surface of said ferrule body to the outside; and said concave portion disposed in an external periphery surface of said flange portion are molded.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of molding on optical ferrule according to claim 17, wherein by said metal mold, said flange portion is molded to a shape taking a rectangular shape when viewed from said rear end portion toward said connector connecting end face, and said concave portion is molded in each of right and left side surfaces (17a) of the external periphery surface of said flange portion or in any one of the right and left side surfaces thereof.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of molding an optical ferrule according to claim 18, wherein by said metal mold, said concave portion is formed so as to extend from said side surface to said rear end corner portion.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of molding an optical ferrule according to claim 19, wherein by said metal mold, a linear dimension (s) of said flange portion obtained by excluding said concave portion is molded to 0.3mm or more.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of molding an optical ferrule according to claim

18, wherein by said metal mold, said concave portion is molded between both corner positions (17m, 17n) of said side surface.

22. (Withdrawn) The method of molding an optical ferrule according to claim 18, wherein by said metal mold, said concave portion is formed to a groove shape extending over the whole length of said flange portion in a connector connecting direction.

23. (Withdrawn) The method of molding an optical ferrule according to claim 17, wherein by said metal mold, said flange portion is molded so as to take a rectangular shape when viewed from said rear end portion toward said connector connecting end face, and said concave portion is molded in each of upper and lower side surfaces of the external periphery surface of said flange portion or in any one of the upper and lower side surfaces thereof.

24. (Withdrawn) The method of molding an optical ferrule according to claim 23, wherein by said metal mold, said concave portion is formed in a groove shape extending over the whole length of said flange portion along a connector connecting direction.